

IDAHO COMMUNITY TREES

News You
Can Use

No. 47
Summer
2008

A NEWS BULLETIN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS—COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM AND THE IDAHO COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

*What? Another pest in Idaho?
To find out, see page 2.*

Coordinator's Column

Grant Program – Your Comments are Needed

As the Idaho Community Forestry Advisory Council toured communities in South Central Idaho, we saw a number of planting projects funded in part with Urban Forestry and/or Transportation Enhancement grants. These grants are intended to help jump start community forest management programs, generate awareness and support for urban forestry, and implement projects that have positive economic and environmental impacts and create healthier cities. It was particularly rewarding to see projects completed years ago that did just that, and which have been expanded or are stimulating other projects.

Unfortunately, due to declining funding, we had to suspend our Program Development and Tree Planting & Care grants a number of years ago. Now it appears that the Community Transportation Enhancement (CTE) grant program is also in danger of being phased out. This program, that funds landscaping projects to enhance transportation corridors, is a partnership project between the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) utilizing Federal Transportation Enhancement (TE) funding. The CTE program is one of many projects ITD funds through the TE program. Eligible TE projects also include activities such as development of bike and pedestrian trails, preservation of historic structures, safety education and more. For a variety of budgetary reasons, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Enhancement projects are being moved to FY10, including the CTE program. This means we won't have an application period this year, but will next year. However, the future beyond that is less clear.

Noting rising construction costs and flat revenues, the Idaho Transportation Board at their April meeting voted to suspend all TE projects af-

continued on page 2

Advisory Council Tours South Central Idaho



James R. Fazio

Earl Andrew and a local tree committee have created an impressive, 21-acre arboretum in the small community of Heyburn. Here Earl is discussing a red chestnut with Council member Gene Grey and Department of Idaho Lands Service Forestry/Regulatory Program Manager Ara Andrea. The red chestnut is popular with visitors and was among the first trees planted when the arboretum got its start in 2000.

"Enthusiasm" and "dedication" were comments often heard among members of the Idaho Community Forestry Advisory Council after their tour of several south central cities. The group was referring to the individuals and citizen committees that showcased the results of Urban & Community Forestry grants and Community Transportation Enhancement grants from previous years. The projects have resulted in hundreds of new trees that contribute to the higher quality of life in each community – and that will increase their contributions to air quality, energy-savings and storm water control each year as they grow.

Buhl – City Forester and Certified Arborist Kelly Peterson explained how the city overcame the challenges of installing trees on Buhl's Main Street after sidewalks had been installed.

Jerome – Steve Hoffman, city forester and certified arborist, showed how trees are shading the city's sewer effluent treatment plant and how a generous neighbor has been instrumental in developing an adjacent wildlife refuge.

continued on page 2

Paul – Public Works Director Rich Rau used a PowerPoint presentation and poster displays to explain a remarkable regional park being developed and landscaped. A human-made hill will provide a sledding area for children in the winter and a seating area for soccer fans in the summer. Local banks and other supporters have multiplied the funding provided by CTE grants to make an expanded park possible.

Rupert – Two CTE projects were observed, both greatly enhancing the city's entrances. Parks Supervisor Bob Russman and Sherri Miles served as hosts.

Heyburn – City Forester and Certified Arborist Earl Andrew led a tour of the city's impressive arboretum. The trees are used for public education as well as for shade along the pathways in the city's beautiful river-side park.

Twin Falls County – A park/viewing area by Hansen Bridge is the site being improved by grant-supported trees. Mark Brunelle, county research and development director, explained future plans and how the cooperation of a good neighbor is making it possible to irrigate the trees that have already been planted. Twin Falls County is the 2nd Idaho county to win Tree City USA designation.

Twin Falls – Park Director Dennis Bowyer and his intern, Philip Stewart, demonstrated the results of a grant-supported tree inventory. The inventory was done using a GPS unit that then enabled tree locations, information and photos to be displayed on a GIS map.

IDAHO COMMUNITY TREES

Idaho Community Trees is published four times a year by the College of Natural Resources, Department of Conservation Social Sciences, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844. Direct editorial matters to James R. Fazio, Editor: 208/885-7209; fax 208/885-6226; e-mail jfazio@uidaho.edu.

For address changes, program assistance or additional information, contact Community Forestry Coordinator, Idaho Dept. of Lands, 3780 Industrial Ave. South, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815; 1-800-IDAHO4U = 1-800-432-4648 or 208/666-8621; fax 208/769-1524; e-mail communitytrees@idl.idaho.gov.


Field Contacts

Northern Idaho: Northwest Management, Inc., W. 21 Commerce Dr., Ste. G, Hayden, Idaho 83835. Ph. 208-772-8554 (colla@consulting-foresters.com)

Southwest Idaho: Vacant. Contact Bill Moore, SW Idaho RC&D in Meridian at 208-888-1890 x4.

Southeast Idaho: Gerry Bates, C. F. Ass't., 2445 John Adams Parkway, Idaho Falls, ID 83401. Ph. 208/522-5964 (gabates@cableone.net).

Permission is hereby given to duplicate and distribute this newsletter for educational purposes. Credit is appreciated.

 printed on recycled paper

Scale Insect Newly Found on Aspens in Idaho

Laura Moffitt, Entomologist, USDA Forest Service, Boise

There is a new insect out there infesting aspens in Idaho. It is called the armored poplar or willow scale, *Diaspidiotus gigas*. This aphid-like insect is very small, less than 1/16 inch in length, and feeds on the stems and branches of aspen by sucking sap. This scale has an armored covering that is convex in shape and whitish in color. Female scales, beneath the covering, are yellow. The female scale inserts her mouthpart into the bark of aspen and is immobile the remainder of her life. The females lay eggs that hatch into soft-bodied, mobile "crawlers" in spring and late summer.

Scales infest aspens of all sizes, and small stems are more susceptible. The feeding insects injure aspen by killing the bark in patches sometimes leading to sunken, pitted areas around the scale. Subsequent branch and tree mortality commonly occur after prolonged feeding over a season or two.

The scale's hard covering protects the female and makes treatment difficult. Mechanical removal works well for adult scales, e.g. a high pressure water sprayer. However, it is the crawler stage that is easiest to treat with dormant oils and contact insecticides. Systemic pesticide injections and soil injections are other options to treat these scales when they are actively feeding on aspens.

Currently, this insect is found only on landscape trees in the Wood River Valley. Please be on the lookout and contact your local arborist or Idaho Department of Lands personnel if you observe this insect on your aspen.



Courtesy USDA Forest Service

Little pits or sunken areas on the bark of aspen are left behind after the armored poplar scale does its damage. This new pest can kill an aspen after one or two seasons of infestation.

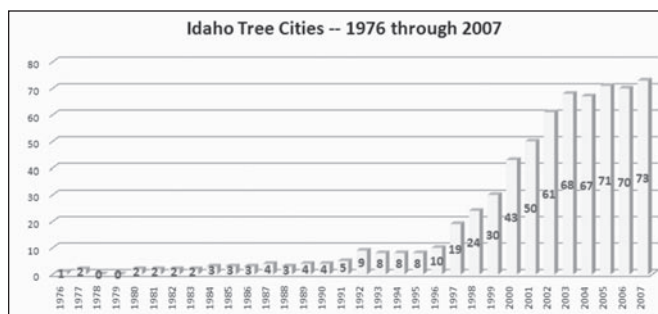
Board know your thoughts on this decision and the impact the CTE program and other TE projects have had in your community. The public comment period is open from **July 3rd through August 4th, 2008**. During these dates, go to <http://itd.idaho.gov/planning/stip/> for instructions on how to provide your comments. This

is an important part of the process, and your input can make a difference for keeping this beneficial grant program alive.

— *David Stephenson*
Community Forestry
Coordinator

New Tree City USA Communities Bring Total to Record High

Cottonwood, Paul and Twin Falls County received Tree City USA awards for the first time this year and brought the total Tree Cities in Idaho to an impressive 73. Thirty-six percent of our state's communities can now post the sign that signifies achieving the four standards for this award. Fifty-nine percent of these have received at least one Growth Award for going beyond the minimum requirements. Boise has been a Tree City USA the longest at 30 years, and Lewiston has received the most Growth Awards (14). The chart shows the increase in awards over the years with significant growth coming after the hiring of 3 community forestry assistants to provide service in all parts of the state.



The rapid growth of Tree City USA awards in Idaho can be attributed to community forestry assistants working with communities after this Idaho Department of Lands service was begun around 1997.

2007-08 CTE Grants Awarded

Once again the Idaho Transportation Department partnered with the Idaho Department of Lands Community Forestry Program to provide Community Transportation Enhancement grants throughout Idaho. Eleven communities shared \$162,000 of grant money to plant trees and improve their entrances, streets and bikeways with green landscaping. An additional \$194,000 was contributed toward the projects by the communities (as shown below in parentheses).

▪ Coeur d'Alene	\$6,500	(\$4,386)
▪ Eagle	\$10,062	(\$6,990)
▪ Idaho Falls	\$13,700	(\$7,877)
▪ Ketchum	\$8,705	(\$31,154)
▪ Moscow	\$15,470	(\$8,396)
▪ Nampa	\$12,941	(\$42,620)
▪ Paul	\$22,000	(\$47,050)
▪ Pocatello	\$14,496	(\$7,475)
▪ Post Falls	\$15,748	(\$16,909)
▪ Sugar City	\$21,915	(\$14,732)
▪ Ucon	\$20,462	(\$6,602)

Calendar—Summer/Fall 2008

July 26 – 30

International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Annual Conference and Trade Show, St. Louis, MO. Phone ISA at (217) 355-9411 or visit www.isa-arbor.com/conference/default.aspx.

August 7

The Urban Forest – Preserve and Protect, audio/web broadcast. For information phone Carrie Merker at the American Public Works Association, (800) 848-2792, or visit www.apwa.net/events.

August 14-15

Arborist Certification Training Class, University of Idaho Extension, Idaho Falls. For information, contact Gerry Bates at (208) 681-5964 or by e-mail at gabates@cableone.net.

September 22 – 24

Pacific Northwest Chapter ISA Annual Training Conference, Boise, ID. Phone the PNW-ISA office at (503) 874-8263 or visit www.pnwisa.org/conference.html.

October 12 – 15

Society of Municipal Arborists Annual Conference and Trade Show, San Diego, CA. Phone SMA at (706) 769-7412 or visit <http://www.urban-forestry.com>.

November 18 - 20

Partners in Community Forestry National Conference, Atlanta, GA. Phone the Arbor Day Foundation office at (402) 474-5655 or visit www.arboryday.org.

January 21 – 23, 2009

Idaho Horticulture Expo, Boise Centre on the Grove, Boise. Contact Ann Bates, (800) INA-GROW or visit www.inlagrow.org.

Upcoming Certified Arborist (CA), Municipal Arborist (MA), Utility Arborist (UA), and Certified Tree Worker (CTW) written Exams

September 21—Boise (CA, UA)

September 27—Pocatello – morning exam (CA, UA)

For information or to register, contact: Pacific Northwest Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture at (503) 874-8263 or (217) 355-9411 or email: info@pnwisa.org.



University of Idaho

Department of Conservation Social Sciences
PO Box 441139
Moscow, ID 83844-1139

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
University of Idaho

This newsletter is made possible in part by a grant from the USDA Forest Service. The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. To file a complaint call (202) 720-5964.

Tree tip

Whose Tree is It?

Trees are a nice way to mark boundary lines between neighbors, but when it comes time for tree work or if one party wants it removed, disputes often arise. In community forestry, the issue usually revolves around trees at the edge of the city right-of-way (ROW).

- Case law in most states holds that when the trunk of a tree is shared by two properties, it belongs to the owners of both. One party can not remove the tree without agreement of the other. (And best to do it in writing!)
- There is case law precedence that when a tree planted completely on one property expands in diameter and crosses the property line – the above holds true for it, too.
- Your local ordinance should clearly define when a boundary tree is considered in the right-of-way, and thus subject to city regulations that cover trees in the right-of-way. In Idaho, some ordinances state that 51% must be in the ROW, but it is best to follow the example of case law and use wording such as “if any part of the trunk is in the ROW” it is subject to ROW rules.



James R. Fazio

Despite laws, communication between neighbors is the best way to prevent and resolve issues about boundary trees.